

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Brett Valiquet on 3/20/08.

The application has been amended as follows: Claim 11 has been replaced with:
11. A method for optimized color reproduction of a color original image by a color reproduction device, comprising the steps of:

determining color values of a color space of the original image;

determining a color space of the color reproduction device;

comparing the color spaces of the original image and of the color reproduction device and establishing which color range of the original image cannot be reproduced by the color reproduction device;

via a color adaptation method, the color range of the original image which cannot be reproduced is adapted to the color space of the color reproduction device by adapting colors inside the color reproduction device color space which correspond to colors in said color range of said original image which cannot be reproduced, but without adapting remaining colors in said reproduction device color space, and then generating an image-specific color association; and

outputting the original image by the image reproduction device according to the image-specific color association.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Mr. Valiquet pointed out that Tohyama teaches mapping only the colors belonging to the color range of the original image (from an original input device) that are outside of the color reproduction range (of a reproduction device) into similar colors with the color reproduction range, whereas the present invention maps the colors belonging to the color range of the original image (from an original input device) that are outside of the color reproduction range (of a reproduction device) by adapting colors that are inside the color reproduction range (of a reproduction device) that correspond to colors of the color range of the original image (from an original input device), but without adapting remaining colors in the color reproduction range. Support for this rationale was found in view of figs. 4 and 5 of the applicant's specification. For this reason, in addition to the other features recited in claim 11, the claims distinguish over the prior art.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kimberly A. Williams whose telephone number is (571) 272-7471. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward L. Coles can be reached on (571) 272-7402. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Kimberly A Williams/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2625

KAW
March 22, 2008